

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-07 SS-20

STR-08 CEA-02 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01

/184 W

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R 211319Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8885

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, PFOR, IBRD, GH

SUBJECT: GHANA DEBT: PUBLICITY REGARDING SETTLEMENT

REF: STATE 55399

1. WE DISCUSSED REFTTEL WITH GORDON BAKER, GHANA
DESK OFFICER AT FCO, WHO EXPRESSED BRITISH CONCERN
THAT PREMATURE RELEASE OF DETAILS OF AGREED
MINUTE MIGHT CONCEIVABLY COMPLICATE ASHLEY-LASSEN'S
TASK IN PRESENTING AGREEMENT TO NRC UPON HIS RETURN
TO ACCRA THIS WEEKEND. BAKER ADDED THAT MAJORITY OF
CREDITORS SHARE BRITISH VIEW ON TIMING OF RELEASE OF
DETAILS. HE WENT ON TO REPORT THAT "WEST AFRICA"
MAGAZINE WILL PUBLISH THIS WEEKEND ISSUE CARRYING
REPORT ON AGREEMENT WHICH MAGAZINE'S EDITORIAL STAFF
SAYS WAS OBTAINED FROM "STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCES."

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2. WE POINTED OUT TO BAKER THAT GHANAISANS THEM-

SELVES ARE APPARENTLY ANXIOUS TO RELEASE THE DETAILS
OF THE AGREEMENT. WITH REFERENCE TO "WEST AFRICA,"
THERE ARE MANY SOURCES FROM WHICH EDITORS MAY HAVE
GOTTEN STORY. WE NOTED THAT, IN ANY EVENT, DETAILS
ARE IN HANDS OF MEDIA AND ARE NOT LIKELY DO ANY HARM.
BAKER REPLIED THAT FCO'S ONLY CONCERN WAS ONE OF
TIMING.

SOHM

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Message Attributes

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